

ABSTRACT

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HETEROARYL-CYCLIC ACETALS

Compounds of formula (I) are described in which Het is a five or six membered heteroaromatic

ring of the formula  $\text{R}^2-\text{X}^3(\text{Cycloalkyl})-\text{X}^4-\text{X}^5$  in which one of  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  is optionally substituted

heteroaryl and the other is optionally substituted heteroaryl or optionally substituted aryl;  $\text{X}^1$  is a bond,  $\text{X}^3$  and  $\text{X}^4$  are each independently N or C and  $\text{X}^2$  and  $\text{X}^5$  are independently CH, N, NH, O or S; or  $\text{X}^3$  and  $\text{X}^4$  are C, one of  $\text{X}^1$ ,  $\text{X}^2$  and  $\text{X}^5$  is N and the others are N or CH; but excluding compounds in which  $\text{X}^1$  is a bond, one of  $\text{X}^2$  and  $\text{X}^5$  is N and the other is NH and  $\text{X}^3$  and  $\text{X}^4$  are both C;  $\text{R}^3$  represents a group  $-\text{L}^1-\text{R}^6$ ;  $\text{R}^4$  represents hydrogen, alkyl or hydroxyalkyl; or  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$ , when attached to the same carbon atom, may form with the said carbon atom a cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl or heterocycloalkyl ring or a group  $\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$ ;  $\text{R}^5$  represents hydrogen or alkyl; and  $m$  is zero or an integer 1 or 2; and N-oxides thereof, and their prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (I) and N-oxides thereof, and their prodrugs.

20 The compounds are TNF inhibitors and are useful as pharmaceuticals.

